(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 11 November 2004 (11.11.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/097168 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: 7/20, 29/00

E21B 43/10,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2004/050544

(22) International Filing Date: 16 April 2004 (16.04.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 03252654.3

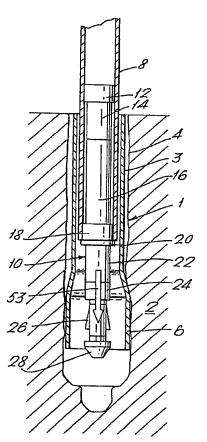
25 April 2003 (25.04.2003) EP

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except CA, US): SHELL INTERNATIONALE RESEARCH MAATSCHAPPIJ B.V. [NL/NL]; Carel van Bylandtlaan 30, NL-2596 HR The Hague (NL).

- (71) Applicant (for CA only): SHELL CANADA LTD [CA/CA]; 400 - 4 th Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2P 2H5 (CA).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BENZIE, Scott, Anthony [GB/NL]; Volmerlaan 8, NL-2288 GD Rijswijk (NL). DEWAR, John, Alexander, Gordon [GB/NL]; Volmerlaan 8, NL-2288 GD Rijswijk (NL). FILIPPOV, Andrei, Gregory [US/US]; 2606 Hidden Shore Drive, Katy, Texas 77450 (US). SCHILTE, Paul, Dirk [NL/NL]; Volmerlaan 8, NL-2288 GD Rijswijk (NL).
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD OF CREATING A BOREHOLE IN AN EARTH FORMATION



(57) Abstract: A method of creating a borehole in an earth formation is provided. The method comprises the steps of drilling a section of the borehole and lowering an expandable tubular element into the borehole whereby a lower portion of the tubular element extends into the drilled borehole section, radially expanding said lower portion of the tubular element so as to form a casing in the drilled borehole section, and separating an upper portion of the tubular element from said lower portion so as to allow the separated upper portion to be moved relative to said lower portion.

No.

WO 2004/097168 A1



PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK,

TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.